

Sex and Relationships Education

Policy Document



All Saints' CE (VA) J & I School, Dudwell Lane, Halifax HX3 0SD

Sex and Relationship Education

1. RATIONALE

1.1 Sex education is a lifelong process of acquiring information and forming attitudes, beliefs and values about sexual identity, relationships and intimacy.

It involves much more than teaching children about reproduction. It must include a real understanding of sexuality and relationships in their broadest terms.

This includes

- sexual development
- sexual orientation
- reproductive health
- interpersonal relationships
- affection, pleasure and intimacy
- sexual response
- body image
- morality, values and attitudes
- sex and gender roles

1.2 Sex and Relationship education should start when children are young and follow them developmentally throughout their school career.

1.3 Sex and Relationship education must contain the following three components:

- knowledge - learning of information which is appropriate and congruent to children's lives and development.
- values and attitudes - exploration of values and attitudes to enable children to separate fact from fiction and to be able to make informed choices without prejudice
- skills - development and practise of skills of communication and interpersonal relationships

1.4 According to the National Curriculum Council, sex education provides:

"... an understanding that positive, caring environments are essential for the development of a good self-image and that individuals are in charge of, and responsible for, their own bodies. It provides knowledge about the processes of reproduction and the nature of sexuality and relationships. It encourages the acquisition of skills and attitudes which allow pupils to manage their relationships in a responsible and healthy manner."

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 The aim of the sex education policy is to clarify the content and the manner in which sex education is delivered in All Saints' CE school. The school will work towards this aim in consultation with parents.

2.2 The sex education programme will provide information which is easily understood and relevant and appropriate to the age and maturity of the pupils.

2.3 In keeping with the school mission it will be delivered with an emphasis on the beliefs and teachings of the Church of England.

2.4 The content of sex education has been drawn from the HEA Primary Project for health education and the Family Planning Association Sex Education; *Why, What and How?*

2.5 Early Years Objectives

- Respond to significant experiences, showing a range of feelings when appropriate
- Have a developing awareness of their own needs, views and feelings, and be sensitive to the needs, views and feelings of others.
- Have a developing respect for their own cultures and beliefs and those of other people.

2.6 Key Stage 1 Objectives

- to decide on and provide an acceptable vocabulary for all parts of the body
- to encourage sensible attitudes towards sex and natural bodily functions
- to make pupils aware of their rights, especially who can touch their bodies

2.7 Key Stage 2 Objectives

- to provide an acceptable and consistent vocabulary for all parts of the body
- to encourage sensible attitudes towards friendship and relationships
- to generate an atmosphere within which pupils can ask questions and discuss sexual matters without embarrassment
- to make pupils aware of the sources of help and information that are available to them

3 MANAGEMENT

3.1 The Head Teacher will oversee the implementation of this policy.

3.2 In association with existing programmes of work (especially Health, PSHE, RE) the staff will follow the school guidelines with regard to sex education. This may involve answering questions appropriately (see note below) promoting attitudes and values, developing non-stereotypical gender roles and meeting the objectives as set out above.

NB Teachers should not feel obliged to answer all children's questions- there will certainly be difficult areas which may be best answered by parents or individually at a later time.. Teachers should all be aware of the option of deferring the answering of a question to a more suitable time giving themselves opportunity to consult with the Head Teacher.

4 DELIVERY

4.1 The programme of teaching will be undertaken in a variety of contexts:

- through planned aspects of science, health and RE
- through pastoral time
- through appropriate visiting speakers such as the school nurse
- through story time and carpet time

4.2 Towards the upper end of Key Stage 2 as the children approach puberty units of work will be planned and delivered as follows;

- a) Y5 - an understanding of the biology of the body and its function as part of the "My Body" project in Science. This will be taught alongside an RE programme which concentrates on relationships
- b) Y6 - a series of lessons about growing up and in preparation for puberty

4.3 Who will teach it?

At present all members of staff are committed to deliver the programme. However if a member of staff feels ill equipped to take on the programme, the head teacher will deliver the programme. In Year 6 the school Nurse also supports delivery of the programme.

5. CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

5.1 The school has a Safeguarding Policy which is available on request.

6. CONFIDENTIALITY

6.1 As a general rule a child's confidentiality will be maintained by the teacher or member of staff concerned. If this person believes that a child is at risk or in danger she/he is to talk to the Headteacher who is the named officer in the Safeguarding Policy. If action is required the child concerned will be informed that confidentiality is being breached and the reasons why. The child will be supported by the teacher throughout the process. (See Safeguarding Policy and *Allegations of Abuse: Flowchart for Action*).

7. RIGHT OF WITHDRAWAL

7.1 Whilst we would encourage all children to take part openly in all aspects of health education, we respect the wishes of parents, and will accommodate discretely any parental requests, for whatever reason, for a child to be withdrawn for all or part of this programme. Where a specific focused programme takes place- i.e. Year 6, parental permission is actively sought for their child's involvement.

8. REVIEW

8.1 This policy will be reviewed every 12 months prior to the delivery of the Y6 programme.